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(54) Title: FINE PLATY KAOLIN COMPOSITION

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a kaolin composition having improved physical properties, for example, for use in the production of paper products. The composition can comprise kaolin having a shape factor of at least about 20. The kaolin can have a particle size distribution such that at least about 94% by weight of the kaolin can have an esd of less than about 2 μm and/or at least about 80% by weight of the kaolin can have an esd of less than 1 μm . The amount of the kaolin having an esd of less than about 0.25 μm can range from about 25% to about 60% by weight. The Hercules viscosity of the kaolin product is less than 4000 rpm at 18 dynes at 63% solids and less than 1500 rpm at 18 dynes at 69% solids when measured using the "A" bob. The present invention also relates to an improved method for making the kaolin product from sedimentary kaolin.

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